May, 1995

Volume XXVI, No. 4

FREE

AMID HEATED RHETORIC

Housing Board Reverses Vote, Applies for Fed Grant

By Michael Mattis

A fierce many-sided battle, punctuated by a fiery political relatoric and accusations of deceit and conspiracy, is being waged over the future of the Potrero Terrace and Annex public housing facilities on the southern slope of Potrero Hill

At issue is a federal grant worth up to \$49.6 million. The HOPE IV grant, as it's called, is part of a competitive nationwide program worth \$129 million to redevelop 'severely distressed' public housing projects.

On April 13, the San Francisco Housing Authority Commission voted against applying for the grant. Four days later, after a storm of outrage from Mayor Frank Jordan's office, commissioners Larry Lee and Sululagi Palega, who had originally voted against the application, reversed their votes, allowing the commission to approve the grant application just hours before the deadline. Commissioners Jan Allen and Karen Huggins refused to change their votes.

Iluggins, who lives in Potrero Terrace, said her "no" vote was in response to resident concerns over relocation during demolition and reconstruction. "There hasn't been any total resident input," she said. "The trust factor among residents

lluggins and Allen face a recall hearing

The "trust factor" is at the core of revident hostility toward the HOPE VI application. Many public housing residents believe the property, with its spectacular views, is being secretly put up for sale to developers, and that the public units, once demolished, will not be rebuilt. All of this, they believe, is part of a conspiracy to move public housing off the Hill and African Americans out of the city.

"I know of at least four occasions in which tenants have been approached by private developers," said Oscaryne Williams, who heads a daycare center in the Annex. Williams said she was "flabbergasted" by the commission's decision to apply for the grant she calls "HOPE-less VI" after resident protests.

"You can't ask somebody to sit down with three meetings and decide whether or not to tear their house," said Huggins. "I believe there is a concerted effort to rid this city of low-income people."

But Housing Authority staff say that's just not true.

"These funds," said Barbara Smith, the Housing Authority's Director of Ilousing Development, "are the first funds available in years to tear down and rebuild." Smith emphasizes they may also be the last for some time to come out of Republican Washington.

"HOPE VI money is not demolition money; it is rebuilding money," said Art Agnos, Regional Director of the federal Housing and Urban Development Dept. (HUD), which sponsors the HOPE program. "The community has a right to remember that 30 years ago promises were not kept. But in the 90s they are, and contracts can be written to guarantee it."

Originally an aeronym for Home Ownership for People Everywhere, the HOPE program began under then-HUD Secretary Jack Kemp. At that time, critics charged that it was a smoke screen to lure people out of public housing, noted former San Francisco Housing Authority Commissioner Robert Boileau, a Potrero Hill resident.

"There's the new HOPE VI und the old HOPE VI," said Boileau. "The old HOPE VI was a sham designed to lure residents of public housing and cut them off at the knees." Boileau said he believes the new progrum is a legitimate reconstruction program. "It just happens to be under the same name," he said.

The application included schematic drawings of the future site. The designs featured a "townhouse" theme that Housing Authority staff said would destigmatize public housing. Several new streets were proposed, as was an additional 200 units for "moderate income" families.

The idea, according to Housing Authority architect Mary Kane, is that the project should "more closely resemble the surrounding neighborhood," with each unit having its own front door facing the street and u back yard. "Changing the way the site works," she said, "will bring a new sense of privacy and ownership."

But both the general, "schematic" nature of the designs and the proposed increase in units for "moderate income" families served to fuel the suspicion of residents. Since the plan was "schematic," residents said they fear the plan will be altered to exclude them once the grant was awarded.

"They're trying to defraud IIUD," said Potrero Annex resident Wayman Nichols. "Why should we let them tear our homes down," he asked, "when there won't be any HUD funds after the HOPE VI grant?"

The plan originally called for some units to be available for first-time purchase, an issue that split residents. Later the plan was changed so that all the new units would be rentals, furthern eroding resident trust. "When we worked on the financing we found that (ownership) wasn't really feasible," said Barbara Smith. Smith also said that resident fears about relocation were unfounded. "We think we can relocate all of the residents on-site with phused reconstruction," she said

But residents insist that they have been given no definite assurances. "Based on all that I have heard and read we will not come back," said Nichols at an April 20 meeting held by concerned residents to discuss strategies for derailing the application process.

During the meeting Nichols also denounced the HOPE VI grant as

(Continued on Page 5)



Potrero Hill 10-year-old Alicia Laudate de Castro smiles proudly behind her mutidesign tiles, "Outdoor Life," at the Potrero Artists Show opening reception April t. For more pictures of Hill ertists and other neighborhood residents enjoying the show, see Pages 10-11.

Two Mornings & Evenings -- Big Boost for Hill Library

By Judy Baston

Little more than half a year after several dozen Potrero Library patrons gathered to say they needed the neighborhood library open at least one morning and one evening during the week, something totally unexpected happened: a new schedule took effect, opening the library for patrons not one — but two mornings and evenings each week.

The new hours (see "Library," Page 3) are Tuesday, 10 a.m. - 9 p.m.; Wednesday, 1-9 p.m.; Thursday, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m.; Friday, 1-6 p.m.; and Saturday from noon - 6 p.m. The Potrero Branch will remain closed on Sundays and Mondays.

The morning and evening hours were repeatedly requested by Potrero patrons last Sept. 24 at a session before Library Commission members Jan Zivic and Walter Jebe. The sessions were held at each branch library to help determine priorities for spending funds set aside for libraries under June, 1974's Prop. E.

At that session, Potrero Hill Parents Assn. member Linda James stressed that, especially for parents with young children, it would be crucial for the library to be open at least one weekday morning. Before 1991, when budget cuts shrank the Potrero Branch's hours from 30 to 27 per week, the library was open at 10 a.m. on Tuesdays.

Several patrons also emphasized the need for the branch to remain open until 9 p.m. one night, as it had before the 1991 cutback shut the doors Wednesday evenings at 8 p.m. rather than 9 p.m.

At a time when virtually all other city agencies and services are eyeing ways to slash their budgets, the Prop. E provis-

ions have brought about a 41 percent increase in the Potrero Library's open hours, as well as an increase in staff. (Actually, the new branch library hours systemwide even exceed the 1987 levels mandated by Prop. E, Steve Hicks of Friends of the Library told The View.)

With a constant series of budget cutbacks paring branch library hours, many readers in Potrero Hill and other neighborhoods often found it difficult to keep track of when their branches were open. And in some cases this uncertainty actually led to a drop in branch circulation figures.

On paper at least, Prop. E funding promises greater stability in open hours and staffing for the Potrero Branch.

Eleanor Shapiro, Public Information officer of the San Francisco Public Library, notes that the Prop. E funding setaside from the city budget will last for

But Prop. E, points out Friends of the Library's Hanks, does not specify the number of open hours at Potrero and every other branch during the life of the measure.

It provides only that the total aggregate branch hours for the entire system — 1,028 per week — will be the minimum until the end of 1999. After that, another round of public hearings will be scheduled to set branch priorities, and yet another round will take place after 2004.

Although branch hours could change from year to year, with less pressure for cutbacks under Prop. E guarantees, it is unlikely that the Potrero Branch Library will face the drama of cutbacks or closure threats that have become an annual ritual in recent years.

GETTING INVOLVED

ROSES (Residents of the Southeast Sector) holds a monthly Community/Police Forum to explore current issues of community concern with members of the S. F. Police Dept. The public is invited to participate. 'This month's meeting (Thurs., May 4) will focus on the Council of District Merchants, with Harold Hoogasian representing the Small Business Commission, and Colleen Meharry speaking on "How can small husinesses help the community?" Meetings are held on the first Thursday of each month, at the Southeast Community Facility, 1800 Oakdale Ave. at Phelps St., in the Community Room; 7 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

Potrero Hill Health Center Advisory Board meets on the second Monday of each month (May 8) from 6 - 7 p.m. The public is invited to attend and participate, 1050 Wisconsin St.

Potrero Hill Democratic Club meets the second Thesdayof each month (May 9) at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St. The speaker this month will be former Mayor Art Agnos. Micetings start at 7 p.m.; speaker at 7:30 p.m.

Potrero Hill Parents Assn. will meet this month on Tuesday, May 16 in the Jackson Park Rec Center, 18th & Mariposa Sts. Potluck refreshments at 6:30 p.m.; discussion with the architect working on the park renovations to begin at 7 p.m.

SFGII (San Francisco General Hospital) will meet on Wednesday, May 17 in Carr Auditorium, 22nd St. at San Bruno. The meeting will be an educational session for neighbors and merchants. Among those participating are: Potrero Hill Boosters, P.L.A.N., East Mission Improvement Club. Inner Mission Neighbors, Twenty-fourth St. Merchants and Mission Merchants. Meetings are from 6:30 - 8:30 p.m.

PLAN (Potrero League of Active Neighbors) will hold a general membership meeting this month in the Jackson Park Rec Center, 18th & Mariposa Sts., on Wednesday, lay 17 at 7 p.m. Topic for discussion will be the proposed construction of a Home Depot Store in the Mission Bay complex.

Potrero Hill Boosters & Merchants meet the last Tuesday of each month (May 30) in the Potrero Hill Library meeting room, 1616 - 20th St., 7 p.m. Guest speaker will be Paul Ash of the San Francisco Food Bank.

Friends of McKinley Square want friends & neighbors to know that the bureaucratic snags surrounding the proposed renovations are about to be resolved and regular monthly meetings will be resumed very shortly, as will the renovation project. Call Joan Anthony for more info; 821-7279.



Cinco de Mayo



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Accentuate Rehab Pluses

I was surprised at the negative tone regarding rehab of public housing in your last issue. Not a single benefit was mentioned. I would like to present an alternative view, not as a public housing resident. but as a neighbor of public housing.

Before moving to Potrero Hill, I lived at Eddy and Divisadero, about one block from a substantial project which had been entirely rebuilt within the last few years. Living next to that project was a completely different experience than living near the projects here. It looked like attractive condo housing, so that the stigma associated with living (and growing up) in a dilapated housing project was eliminated.

When I walked past that housing project, many kids who lived there were invariably playing up and down the sidewalk. They were laughing and the atmosphere was happy and relaxed. No drug dealers congregated, and the estrangement between the project and the neighborhood, which was apparent here, was virtually invisible.

I have never seen happy groups of child ren playing outside the Potrero projects. While the residents in your story were quoted as saying that there was "nothing wrong", clearly many people are keeping their children inside out of fear-

There have been many advances in the design of housing projects since the Potrero projects were build. For example, each housing unit at the project at Eddy and Divisadero has its own direct, private entrance to the street. There are no common passageway where toughs can gather and intimidate the law-abiding residents, and no open central courtyards.

I can't understand why the benefits of such a rehab for Potrero were not mentioned in your newspaper. Obviously, a rehab of the Potrero projects would

MUNI and BART Tix at Nabe

MUNI and BART tickets are available at the Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St., Mondays through Fridays during office hours, 10 a.m. - 4 p.m.

> Senior MUNI: \$8,00 Youth MUNI: \$8.00 **Adult MUNI: \$35.00** Senior BART: \$4.00

For more information, call: 826-8080

be good for the children who grow up there, as well as the neighborhood as a whole. There are a number of success stories in this city. I think they must be put on the table, along with concerns about resident relocation. It would be interesting to know how much crime was reduced in the surrounding neighborhood by the other rehabs that have been done in San Francisco.

Megan Adams 20th Street

Jobs and Crime

Re: Michael Mattis' article "Crime on Potrero Hill" (April, The Potrero View). The dichotomy of North/South Potrero Hill is as apparent as the articles written in the Potrero View. In Mattis' article you have the South slope represented by the comments of Starr Williams: "Give these people something to do - a job or trade or something.

The North slope is represented by Judy Baston's article on the Home Depot facility. When you clear the smoke off the environmentalists' concerns, basically what I read in the article is that "we don't want it."

Simple economics dictates: If you want jobs - you need to create them. If you want a governmental system schools, hospitals, parks and Muni you need a source of revenue.

lam not conceding all arguments and concerns to the Home Depot project. But there must be a balance of real concerns resolved and the implementation of the development. San Francisco has lost too many jobs, and too much tax revenue and income to north San Mateo County.

Steve Reuss 25th Street





Masthead design by Giacomo Patri

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LIBRARY NEWS POTRERO BRANCH 1616 20th St. 695-6640

Closed Monday

Tuesday: 10 am - 9 pm Wednesday: 1 pm - 9 pm Thursday: 9 am - 6 pm Friday: 1 pm - 6 pm Saturday: Noon - 6 pm

UP AND RUNNING

The new library hours are: Tuesday: 10 a.m. - 9 p.m. Wednesday: 1 p.m. - 9 p.m. Thursday: 9 a.m. - 6 p.m. Friday: 1 p.m. - 6 p.m. Saturday: noon - 6 p.m.

The library is closed on Sunday and

Besides the new hours, there are more books and non-print materials, updated and expanded reference sources, and added staff to assist you. And while we're all a-buzz here, it's a subliminal enough buzz that you can lose yourself in your reading without too much distraction. Looking forward to serving you with all the resources you have come to expect.

CHILDREN'S PROGRAMS SCHEDULE CHANGES

Infant-toddler Lapsit will move to Thursdays at 10:30 a.m. per the request of many parents in the Potrero Hill Parents Association. Pre-school Story Time will move to Saturday at 2 p.m. There will be two video-film showings a month - morning (per the request of Potrero Hill Headstart) and evening on Tuesdays. This month's video showings will take place on Tuesday, May 24, and feature "Henry and the Polka Dot Kid" at 9:30 a.m., and "Rookie of the Year," at 7 p.m.

In September, we hope to add chapter book read-alouds on Tuesday evenings at 7 p.m. for elementary school-age

POTRERO HILL MIDDLE SCHOOL BOOKTALKS

Middle School Librarian Sue Harloe will visit Potrero Hill Mlddle School on Tuesday, May 9 and the morning of May 10, when she will "booktalk" books for teens to 7th and 8th graders there.

MOLTO GRAZIE

That's Italian for "many thanks," as we are belatedly thanking Mariuccia laconi for the lovely Italian-language, profeminist children's books that she donated to our collection. Thanks also to Dick Millet, who donated the adult services reference desk now in operation and staffed by Adult Services librarian Julio Medina. And thanks to the anonymous patron who brought the staff the orchids and the camellias that we wore on the night of the Potrero Hill Artists Exhibition opening.

And thanks to all the organizations and individuals who helped with the hanging of the art show and reception preparations. Special thanks to Marion Norberg for the superb refreshments, and to M Amato and the Potrero Hill Garden Club for providing flowers on very short notice.

OVERSIGHT

A serious omission occurred in our article last month. We neglected to include Lisa Franks in introducing the staff here. Lisa, who grew up on Potrero Hill, works here on Saturdays as a very conscientious and caring page. During the rest of the week, Lisa works as a primary school teacher and is the mother of Ria Franks, whose image-evoking; mixed-media piece was on display in the children's art exhibition last month.

CINCO DE MAYO

Following recent events in Chiapas and elsewhere in Mexico? You won't want to miss our Cinco de Mayo showing of "Viva Zapata," with Marlon Brando and Anthony Quinn, on Wednesday, May 3, at 7 p.m.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: BOOKS ON

- * Abu-Jamal, Mumia. "Live from Death Row." Abu-Jamal, a Philadelphia radio reporter, was convicted and sentenced to death for the murder of a police officer. These prison writings contain commentaries censored from National Public Radio broadcasts. This is an unflinching account of the brutalities, humiliations, and atrocities of prison life that is certain to fuel the controversy surrounding capital punishment and freedom of speech.
- * Alexander, David & Jerome Preisler. "Infosurfing Through the Net: How to Get On-line Computer Services and Ride the Information Wave." An accessible, easy-to-read information guide that introduces the world of on-line computer services, including PRODIGY, America On Line and CompuServe.
- * Gingrich, Newt. "To Renew America." The Speaker of the House draws on his interpretation of American History, and personal and anecdotal material, to demontrate how to re-"civilize" through individual motivation and what he refers to as "faith."
- * Pepper, William. "Conspiracy: the Truth Behind Martin Luther King, Jr.'s Murder." In the 1970s, the author, a renowned lawyer, was asked to investigate the King assassination by Rev. Ralph Abernathy and others close to King Pepper, convinced of James Earl Ray's innocence, has spend the last 16 years diligently looking for the truth behind King's death. In spite of governmentimposed red tape, Pepper became convinced of a complex plot beginning with orders from J. Edgar Hoover and involving Texas oil interests and crime syndicates.
- * Trillin, Calvin. "Too Soon to Tell." Collection of topical essays that reveal Trillin at his barbed and irrepressible
- * McNamara, Robert. "In Retrospect: The Tragedy and Lessons of Vietnam." Kennedy-Johnson war machine architect tells it like it was and - as he now admits - oughtn't to have been. Little here to comfort those who fought and died under various antagonistic flags and banners except maybe the bittersweet vindication that comes from hearing it from the horse's mouth.

COMING ATTRACTIONS: BOOKS ON ORDER FOR CHILDREN

- * Ammon, Richard. "Trains at Work."
- * Bussell, Darcey, "The Young Dancer."
- * Cutchins, Judy. "Parenting Papas: Unusual Animal Fathers."
- * Lyons, Mary. "Master of Mahogany: om Day, Free Black Cabinet-Ma
- * Phillips, Louis. "School Daze: Jokes Your Teacher Will Hate!"
- * Weidt, Maryann N. 'Oh, the Places He Went: A Story About Dr. Seuss-Theodore Seuss Geisel."

Toba Singer Branch Librarian



. In The View CONCERNS GROW OVER MIDDLE SCHOOL:

Neighbors, business people and others had been meeting since the beginning of the school year to discuss growing concerns about problems at the Potrero Hill Middle School. There was a perception that the school had been made a "dumping ground" for students with learning or disciplinary problems "who are shunted off to the middle school from elsewhere." One teacher pointed out that PHMS "has the highest proportion of Educationally Disadvantaged Youth (EDY) students in the city -85 percent, twice as many as schools west of Twin Peaks."

MAXWELL TO BE HONORED:

Enola D. Maxwell, director of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, was named as one of three senior women being honored by the San Francisco chapter of the Older Women's League. She and her fellow honorees, Vivian Hallinan, a peace and civil rights activist for many years, and Annabel Marsh, a long distance runner, were to be cited "for their contributions to the quality of life in their community and for presenting a positive image of citizens 60 years of agc or over."

NABE CHILDCARE CENTER OPENS DOORS:

After being shuttered for three years, the doors of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House childcare center at 824 Carolina St. were opened to neighbors. The Mayor's Office of Community Development helped pay for the renovation process and the NABE was seeking funds to hire a director and teachers for the facility.

PLAN TACKLES PARKING SITUATION:
The Potrero League of Active Neighbors (PLAN), noted that the continued growth of S.F. General Hospital and the expansion of businesses associated with Showplace Square meant less street parking available to residents. PLAN was conducting a survey to determine residents' feelings about 90 or 45 degree parking on some streets where parallel parking was in effect back in 1985. PLAN preferred a change to avoid establishment of "zoned" residential permit parking.

THIS AND THAT:

The call was out for runners to sign up for the third annual "Scenic Scamper," the eight kilometer run benefitting the NABE... View editors were taken aback by the serious responses to an April Fool's Day spoof on removal of rent control...

The first installment of a \$600,000 budget to study plans for the Mission Bay project was released to the City Planning Department in April, but not until the Board of Supervisors voted to keep a tight rein on where the Planning Department was going . . . A tree planting project initiated by residents Medardy Westrum and Aileen and Pete Hoagland saw 49 trees planted on Connecticut Street between 19th and 22nd Streets. The project was aided by the Friends of the Urban Forest and funded by the Mayor's Community Block Grant fund . . . The S.F. League of Urban Gardeners ceived a grant of \$2,000 from the Department of Public Works to expand and maintain the community garden on the unimproved section of 22nd Street between Arkansas and Connecticut... Moira Jackson was reelected to the Senior Legislature in April . . . In the classified ads: "Plumbing problems solved, from new bathrooms with severe economy, to faucet repair." (?)

Vas Amautoff



THE VIEW AT THE LIBRARY

If you are searching for a story that ran in the Potrero View a long time ago, take a look at the bound volumes at the Potrero Branch Library which contain every issue from the very first one in 1970 through December 1991. We will have more recent issues bound in the not-too-distant future, but in the meantime, check with the librarian who may have them



Potrero Hill Neighborhood House

953 De Haro Street, San Francisco, California (415) 826-8080 Enola D. Maxwell, Executive Director

ON-GOING MEETINGS:

Alcohol Anonymous Girls/Boys Club Meelings Narcotics Anonymous Omega Boys Club Meetings Sun/Mon/Thurs, 6.30 p.m. Mondays, 4 00 p m Wednesdays, 7 30 p.m. Tuesday, 7:30 p.m.

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- Gang Prevention
 Girls/Boys Club
- Graffiti Paint Out Juvenila Probation
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- Senior Nutrition Program
 Social Devalopment Center
- Tutoring Program
- Youth Employment MYEEP/SYETP Job Readiness
- ZAP Project (substance abuse day treatment for adolescents)

All services and activities FREE " Member agency of the United Way of the Bay Area The NABE is wheel chair accessible. If you have need for the services of a certified American Sign Languaga interpreter, or a sound enhancement system, or meeting in an alternative format please contact (415) 826-8080 at least three working days prior

Scope of Domestic Violence Examined At April SFGH Community Meeting

By Vas Arnautoff

The ugly face of domestic violence was examined at the last S.F. General Hospital community meeting held at Carr Auditorium on the SFGH campus April 13.

Madeline Daley, R.N., a member of the SFGH staff and its pilot project on domestic violence, headed by Dr. Beth Kaplan, explained the hospital's role in dealing with the problem and offered statistical evidence of its scope.

SFGII is one of seven hospitals in California and a number in Pennsylvania

involved in pilot projects on domestic violence. Their goal is to develop an "optimal response" to the situation and the local staff of 12 has put together a packet of information for victims of familial abuse. The packet includes listings for support groups, shelters, legal assistance, counseling and police procedures. It even lists programs for the perpetrators of domestic violence, recognizing that some are seeking a way to cease their own abusive behavior.

The scope of the problem is dramatically illustrated by statistics provided by Daley. Two to four million people in the U.S. per year are victims of domestic

violence — the great majority of them women. Twenty to 30 percent of women seeking emergency treatment in San Francisco do so because of abusive behavior by husbands or domestic partners. And in 1991-92, 61 percent of female murder victims were killed by family members.

"Domestic violence is about power and control," Daley explained, and the abusers appear in all cultures and economic groups. Treatment of perpetrators is not very effective yet, though there are programs which try to help this group.

Local resources for the abused are available by calling the S.F. domestic violence 24-hour hotline at (415) 864-4722.

Unique Swap: People Line Up to Trade Guns for Computers, Modems, Software

Trading computers for guns, police turned Earth Day on April 22 into an opportunity for district youth to get on line and off the streets.

"I've never seen anything like it," said community activist Kevin Williams, looking at the ethnically mixed crowd of people waiting in line to trade their guns for computers outside the old South San Francisco Opera House at 3rd and Newcomb streets.

The swap, sponsored by Potrero District Police in conjunction with community organizations, was the first of its kind in the country, according to police. Computer Recycling of Mountain View donated the reconditioned IBM compatible machines, along with packages that included modems and software. Eighty machines were distributed within the first two hours and Computer Recycling spokesman Steve Wyatt said he was prepared to write vouchers for 120 more.

"Something like 25 million computers are dumped into landfills each month," said Wyatt. "It's wasteful. We'd like to see them in the hands of users,"

Waiting in the sunshine to turn in her enormous handgin, Treina Gosey said she had heard about the swap the week before the actual event. Needing a computer for her growing window-cleaning business she went out and bought the gun off the street for \$50 cash. "I need a computer to do payroll," said Gosey. "The gun was easy to get and less expensive than the two-grand for a new computer."

The cache of weapons included pistols, rifles and at least one sawed-off shotgun.

"That's a real lawbreaker there," said Police Captain Tim Hettrick, as he carried the sawed-off into the truck for disposal. "That's a big-time felony." All of the firearms that were turned in are to be destroyed, according to Hettrick.



"Never seen anything like it," Potrero Police celebrate Earth Day by trading reeyeled computers for dangerous weapons. Eve Benson photo

MUNI and BART Tix at Nabe

MUNI and BART lickets are available at the Neighborhood House, 953 De Haro St., Mondays through Fridays during office hours, 10 a.m.-4 p.m.

> Senior MUNI: \$8.00 Youth MUNI: \$8.00 Senior BART: \$1.60

For more information, call 826-8080



POTRERO HILL NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE

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For Information about the NABE TEEN CENTER telephone
Joyce Armstrong, Program Coordinator at (415) 826-8080

Caleb G. Clark Potrero Hill Health Center

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Michael J. Drennan, MD - Director

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We're specialists at Emergency Care. We hope you'll never need an emergency room. But if you do, why not go to the best?



Emergency Department Army & Valencia Se Habla Espoñol

Potrero Hill Parents Association

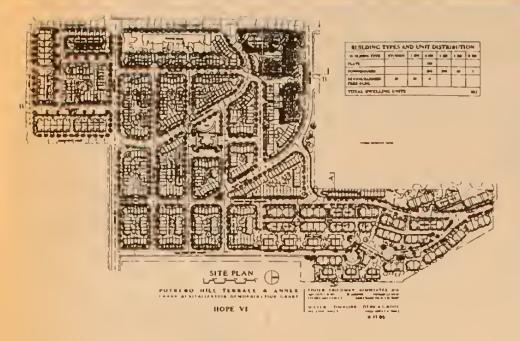
CHILD CARE LISTINGS

CHILD CARE NEEDED AND CHILD CARE PROVIDED PHPA RESOURCE CENTER IN THE CHILDREN'S SECTION AT THE PUBLIC LIBRARY 1616 TWENTIETH STREET

BABYSITTING CLASS FOR TEENS

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CALL THE PHPA INFORMATION LINE 282-742S FOR INFORMATION ON SPECIAL EVENTS FOR FAMILIES, CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES, PARENTING CLASSES, AND COMMUNITY ACTION



Preliminary plans for the "revitalization" of the Potrero Hill Terrace and Annex includes new plantings, buildings, and additional streets.

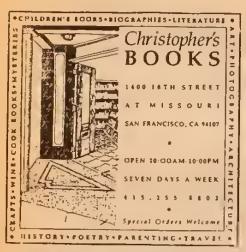
Housing Board Reverses Vote, Applies for Fed Grant

(Continued from Page 1)

satanic. "They didn't give us HOPE one, two, three, four, five or seven," he said, "they gave us six. And what's the number six mean in the Bible?" he asked, possible referring to the use of 666 as a symbol for the Anti-Christ.

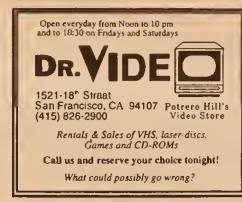
Resolving to seek legal counsel, residents at the meeting also decided to form a committee to draft a letter urging HUD not to approve the grant.

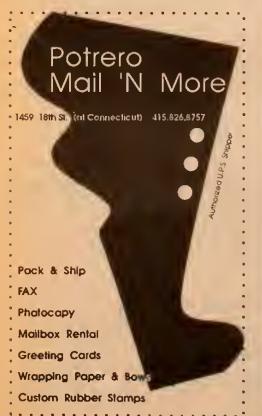
Housing Authority Commisison President Barbara Meskunas, defending the commission's approval of the application, said that she thinks that there is "a campaign of disinformation being disseminated among residents" and that "once the community knows the facts they will be in full support" of the grant.



Malik Rahim, who attended the April 20 meeting as a "consultant!" however, charges that Meskunas is employed by a "right wing" think-tank that is masterminding the fall of public housing. "That's a lie," said Meskunas, who works for Institute for Contemporary Studies here in the city. "I've been a Democrat all my life." Meskunas counters by charging that Rahim is a convicted felon who has a vested interest in keeping the projects run-down. Lieutenant Jake Stasko of the AFPD Housing Authority Task Force confirmed Rahim's felony conviction.

"This is the kind of political false rhetoric that is characteristic of every attempt to tear down dilapidated housing and replace it with modern housing," said Agnos of the politics inside the Housing Authority. "It is a catastrophe for the city and for the people who live in this dilapidated housing that the commission is so internally disorganized and angry with each other."







Questions About Home Depot To Air at May Meetings

By Judy Baston

' Potrero Hill residents will have a number of chances this month to voice their opinion of the proposal to build a Home Depot facility in Mission Bay - beginning with a Board of Supervisors session Monday, May 1 and a public forum set for Thursday, May 4.

Coming before the Board May 1 is a resolution authored by Supervisor Sue Bierman urging Mission Bay developer Catellus and the City Planning Commission "to undertake a comprehensive community planning process" before any substantial modification of the Mission Bay Development Agreement reaches the Board of Supervisors for a vote.

The resolution was written in response to requests from Catellus that an exemption from various provisions of the Development Agreement be granted in the case of Home Depot, and that whatever public hearings take place around the proposal be on the fast track.

Initially Catellus was claiming all hearings would need to be finished by June or the entire Home Depot proposal could be lost to the area. Now, notes the Planning Dept's. Alec Bash, the Developer is requesting that the matter reach the Planning Commission June 8, have a first hearing before the Board of Supervisors July 3, with final adoption in August.

It is with this timeline in mind that the Planning Dept. has set a public forum for 6 - 9 p.m. on May 4 "to review all information to date," Bash said, "and identify issues that are there. The session will be at 660 Mariposa St. on the Catellus property and the site of proposed Home Depot.

In the three weeks following the forum a series of small group sessions will take place, to be followed by another large public forum to identify what has been resolved, what remains unresolved and what the sticky points are.

Considering that it took nearly 10 years to hammer out issues leading to the Development Agreement, it will be interesting to see if all the issues already raised about the Home Depot proposal - as well as the planning process itself - can be resolved within the proposed timetable.



ART AGNOS SPEAKS

ON TUESDAY MAY 9, 1995, THE FORMER MAYOR OF SAN FRANCISCO WILL BE THE GUEST SPEAKER AT THE REGULAR MONTHLY MEETING OF THE POTRERO HILL DEMOCRATIC CLUB. THE MEETING WILL START AT 7:00 P.M. AND WILL TAKE PLACE AT THE POTRERO HILL NEIGHBORHOOD HOUSE, 953 DE HARO ST. THE PUBLIC IS WELCOME.



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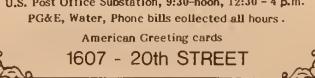
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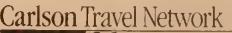


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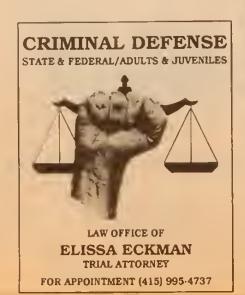
Robert Ruffing, Sr. Worker And Recovery Activist Dies

Robert E. Ruffing, a much beloved and longtime resident of Potrero Hill. died April 7 at the u ge of 85. He is sur vived by his brother E. Carl Ruffing of Clarcmont, Calif., and many other relatives and friends.

He was born on July 8, 1909 in Dinikirk, New York. He served with the U.S. Navy in the Pacific during World War II. After his discharge, he settled in the Bay Area and worked for 27 years as a Passenger Service Representative for United Airlines.

Rulfing was a founding member of the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club, served as Treasurer of G-40 Plus, and provided guidance and enconragement to hundreds as an active member of the recovery community and among seniors.

A celebration of his life was held on April 29 at the Potrero Hill Neighborhood Honse.





Robert Ruffing



Lena Carmena, Worker for Rights, Justice, Dead at 92

Former Hill resident Lena Carmena, born August 31, 1902 in Baton Rouge, L.A., died April II in San Francisco at the

Lena moved to the state of Washington to work in a Navy shipyard during World War II. After the war, in 1948, she moved to San Francisco and was reunited with her daughter Enola D. Maxwell and grand-

After her retirement from working at the New Process Laundry, she opened the Little Rcd Door thrift shop at Missouri and 18th Strects, where she also dispensed advice, exchanged local gossip with her customers and friends, and welcomed newcomers to Potrero Hill.

She was a lifelong member of the NAACP, and was dedicated to justice, equality and education. She was proud that she never missed a Civil Rights march. Lena was also active in the former Olivet Presbyterian Church on Missouri Street. She taught herself to read and always encouraged young children to educate themselves.

Besides her daughter Enola, who is Executive Director of the Potrero Hill Neighborhood House, Lena leaves behind four generations of relatives: Grandchildren Barbara Dundy, Ronald Hatter and Sophie Maxwell; great-grandchildren Darryl, Edward, Ernest and Darnel Hatter; La Vette, Thomalyn and Shelley Virden; Heather, Shawn, Christopher and Rama Kellum; Jessica Pete, Angela Keliom and Renee Hatter; great-great grandchildren Vcronica Guintar, Carmena and Alexandria Woodward, Quinci and Jade Greene, Alexis Kellom and Blake Nesbitt. Dear nieces and nephews Coola Dangerfield, Josephine Williams, Willis, Gwen and Akil Dangerfield, and "adopted" son Bob Hayes.

A memorial service was held for her April 23 at the 7th Avenue Presbyterian



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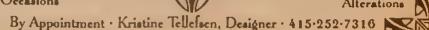
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Protestors throughout the country will gather May 6 to make their voices heard on: "defending Affirmative Action; overturning Prop. 187; demanding money for jobs, housing, healthcare and education for all, not war." In San Francisco the event will begin at 11 a.m., Dolores Park (18th & Dolores Streets), with a 1 p.in. rally in Civic Center. Organizers of the day of protest - National People's Campaign — can be reached at 2489 Mission St., #28, S.F. 94110, or call 821-6545.

Don't look for Ralph Anderson's fine art works to grace the Potrero Library's annual local artist's shows, or for Jim Harris to get involved with civic endeavors here. They've moved from Potrero Hill to Twin Peaks — not the neighborhood across the city but the town in the San Bernardino Mountains. We wish them good luck in whatever new life they discover down there.

In the Bay Area about 300,000 people half of them children - need emergency food. You can help feed the hungry the easy way on May 13 when letter carriers will deliver your donations. This food drive is sponsored by the National Assn. of Letter Carriers, AFL-CIO; the U.S. Postal Service; The United Way; and the Bay Area Food Banks. For more info call 1-800-870-FOOD.

The Circuit Network presents Tandy Beal and Company in "Imagine If ... and "Br'er Rabbit Speaks! African American Stories and Music," Sat. and Sun. afternoons, May 20 & 21 at 3 p.m. at the Center for the Arts Forum in Yerba Buena Gardens. A special Free Family Workshop takes place noon to 1:15 p.m. on Sun., May 21. Call box office 978-ARTS for more info.

The Pacific Islanders' Cultural Assn. (PICA) is sponsoring a free event on Sat., May 6, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m. with Hawaiian food, arts and crafts. A benefit concert at 7 p.m. will feature music and entertainment and raise money to welcome (on July 1) the Hokule'a (a historical double-hulled canoe built in Hawaii and sailed to Tahiti). Call 1-800-651-PICA for more info.

Free vision screening for glaucoma will be offered on Sat., May 13, 9:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. as part of the Bernal Heights Senior Health Fair at 515 Cortland St. Please call 206-2145 for an appointment. This free screening is sponsored by Prevent Blindness Northern California.

Volunteers are needed to help with the rescue and care of sick, injured or orphaned marine animals that strand along the northern and central California coastline. The Marine Mammal Center invites interested people, ages 18 or over, to train as volunteers in animal care and for other related activities including greeting visitors and sales at giftshops in Sausalito and San Francisco. Orientation sessions are scheduled for May 9 and 20 in Sausalito. If interested call 979-4357.

The Potrero Hill Senior Central Outreach Sub-Committee is conducting meetings in the community to discuss plans for assistance services and information accessibility to seniors. The next meeting will take place at the Health Center, 1050 Wisconsin St., on May 11, from 2 - 4 p.m.



Docents from the Mexican Museum lead tours of the restored Stock Exchange Building (now the San Francisco City Club) the first Wednesday of every month from 3-4 p.m. The building at 155 Sansome St. includes Diego Rivera's famous fresco, "Allegory of California"; bas-reliefs by Ralph Stackpole; Henry Dixon's bronze, silver, and brass handpounded elevator doors, and much more. The fee is \$5, and to reserve a space or to confirm tour dates contact Masha Zakheim, 285-0495.

Researchers at the UCSF Mt. Zion Center on Aging need volunteers for three studies related to the care and treatment of people with mild to moderate Alzheimer's disease. The study involves six 45-minute interviews that take place at home. During each interview, patients are asked simple questions to evaluate their memory and problem-solving ability. A study to test the effectiveness of an experimental drug treatment for the disease will also be offered to volunteers. The test will last for 19 weeks, and patients will be under close medical supervision while in the study. Up to \$300 compensation is available to participants. To learn more or to participate call 750-4170.

An Israel Independence Day Picnic & Celebration takes place May 7, noon to 4 p.m. at Yerba Buena Gardens, 3rd and Mission Streets. There will be live music, Israeli dancing, kid stuff, crafts and information. The free event is sponsored by the Jewish Community Federation, Jewish Community Relations Council and the Mayor's Office of Protocol. For more info call 957-1551.

A live musical theater extravaganza featuring a cast of more than 1,000 San Francisco school students will be presented by the S.F. Arts Education Foundation at noon on Sat., May 13, at the Bandshell in Golden Gate Park. Jazz composer Wayne Wallace serves as music director and will lead the band. Local musician Danny Duncan has written the libretto to the music that will be played and sung by students. A special benefit picnic, prepared by Alice Waters of Berkeley, and other S.F. and Bay Area restaurateurs, will be held following the performances. Call 771-1718 for more info.

On the second Thursday of each month the American College of Traditional Chinese Medicine offers free information about Chinese medicine and HIV/AIDS. The clinic is located at 450 Connecticut St. Call 282-9603 for info.

The 19th Annual S.F. Free Folk Festival is calling for participants to appear June 23, 24 and 25 at the Roosevelt Middle School, 440 Arguello St. Needed are performers of folk, international and traditional music and dance; and workshop leaders for storytelling; children and familites activities; dancers. No monetary compensation is available, and admission is free to the public. If interested call (510) 521-8764.

A celebration of public art takes place during the Fifth Annual Mural Awareness Week, May 13-21, sponsored by the Precita Eyes Muralists Assn. An awards ceremony will kick off the week by honoring the year's outstanding muralists at the So. of Market Cultural Center, 934 Brannan St. Other events include an exhibition of works by Bay Area muralists; Mural Lectures; "Grafitti Battle" finalists; Bicycle Mural Tours; Mural Walks; and an Open House at Precita Eyes Mural Arts Center. For further info about events, costs, sites, call 285-2287.

A symposium and college fair for high school students - "Women's Colleges: Leadership in the 21st Century" - meets Sat., May 20, 8:30 a.m. at Lowell High School, 1101 Eucalyptus Dr. at 19th Ave. The event's keynote speaker is Nancy Y. Bekavac, President of Scripps College. There will be panel discussions on financing, issues about women's colleges, and leadership opportunities. Admission is free. Call 759-2749 for more info.

Youth for Service announces a Computer Repair Program designed for students who are currently in high school or Pre-GED. Young Latina women are especially encouraged to apply. Classes begin May 15, and there is prior testing and orientation. The program offers an opportunity for a career in computer repair, high school credit and job placement. For further info call 621-5555, ext. 103.

Goat Hill Pizza announces an opening reception to begin the exhibit of artist Alexandra Mitchell's works on Sunday, May 21, from 2-4 p.m. at 300 Connecticut St. The work in her current show is an experiment in using frames and canvas in atypical ways.

The Norway Day Festival invites the public to join in its third annual celebration Sun., May 21 at Ft. Mason, Herbst Pavillion, 10 a.m. - 6 p.m. The event is held in conjunction with Norway's Constitution Day, May 17. There will be music and entertainment, food, arts and crafts, and other offerings of the Norweigian culture. There is a \$5 admission, \$1 for ages 6-12, and children 5 and under are admitted free.

Officer Dorothy Shurtleff reminds Potrero Hill dog owners that dogs should be kept on leashes in all public places, including parks, unless otherwise

The question "Who Controls Public Space?" will be tackled by artists, administrators and writers during May's Public Art Forum at SOMAR, the South of Market Cultural Center, 934 Brannan St. Events include an exhibition in the SOMAR Gallery May 2-30, a Public Art Wall, and public statements, culminating in the discussion and reception on May 30 at 7 p.m. Participating artists include Barry McGee, Lary Shaw, Miranda Berg-man, Leisel Fenner, Mark Pauline, Jody Nash, Lauri Kimberly, Sandra Howell. Seyed Alavi, Shelly Willis, Shane Eagleton, Sono Osato, Michael Rios, Alex Rappoport, Mark Roller, and Sachal. Call Carlos Loarca at 552-2131 for more info.

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Christine Lando (left) holds daughter Leigh while they enjoy a laugh with JoeSam at the Fine Arts Museum reception on Potrero Hill for the upcoming minature golf tournament in Golden Gate Park.

Hill Artists Prepare for Art-Inspired Miniature Golf at Golden Gate Park

The Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco will present the city's first ever "art inspired" day of golf on Sat., May 20, when 18 contemporary artists join together on the Music Concourse in Golden Gate Park for a round of miniature golf with the public.

Entitled "Bogcy Down With the Fine Arts Museum," the event will feature each golf hole designed by a Bay Area artist. The designs represent a wide range of techniques and styles, including one by Potrero Ilill artist JoeSam. Co-

Chairperson of this event is Hill resident and artist Christine Lando, who serves on the Museum's Development Committee.

This family-oriented event is scheduled from noon to 5 p.m., and the fce to play nine holes of golf is \$10 per adult and \$5 for children 10 years and younger. Spectators are invited at no charge. A hole in one contest will also be part of the day's activities, and food will be available at a cost. Pre-registration is advised. To sign up call 750-3668.



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Threats to NEA Funding Peril Local Arts Groups

By Jeff Wood

San Francisco rcceives more fcderal arts funding per capita than any other city in the United States, and Potrero Hill, home to many outstanding artists and arts organizations, feels the impact of funding cuts as deeply as any part of the City. With the National Endowment for the Arts targeted for extinction by some new Congressional movers and shakers, The View spoke recently with several local groups to see what reduced funding means for the Hill's arts community.

James Kleinmann, Managing Director of A Traveling Jewish Theater (ATJT), a group associated with Project Artaud at 17th and Florida Streets, described NEA funding as "irreplaceable."

"ATJT has been in the Bay Area for 13 years. If we didn't have the NEA five years ago, we wouldn't be here today. And if we didn't get the NEA grant this year, we probably wouldn't be around five years from now," Kleinmann said, though NEA money contributes only seven per cent to ATJT's annual budget.

This small percentage of NEA funding is the norm for many arts organizations, which raise money through a variety of sources, both public and private. The reason NEA funding is so important, even in such small amounts, is its amazing ability to leverage funds from other sources. It is said that for every \$1 the NEA grants an organization, \$11 more is generated from private and local organizations.

Sally Jo Fifer, Executive Director of the Bay Area Video Coalition (BVAC), said NEA funding gives legitimacy to a group seeking funds from other benefactors, many of which aren't as thorough in their selection process as the NEA. "It acts as a stamp of approval," she said.

She sees the peer panel system used to select grant recipients as an important function of the NEA. "There is no better system [for judging the merit of an organization] than the peer panel system," she said. Fifer described BVAC as "wellfunded." It receives only five percent

of its annual budget from the NEA. She admitted that for them a total loss of NEA funds "wouldn't be significant."

But she described the elimination of re-granting as "a significant loss for the media arts community." Re-granting is a process by which NEA funds are distributed through regional arts organizations more thoroughly familiar with local artists, a system that gives the NEA less authority over which work is funded. Particularly hard hit by the past elimination of re-granting were gay and lesbian film festivals, she said, which received re-granted funds.

Karen Schiller, General Manager of Theater Artaud, described the loss of a large audience event such as a film festival or theater program on a community. In addition to the loss of money for artists or the loss of their art, a tiny economy dies, she said. "The number of performances would be cut back. That means purchasing less equipment, supplies, house staff, even the restaurant next door. When we're dark, they're dark," she said.

A total loss of NEA funding, though it might be crippling, would not appear to be a death blow to these groups. But they all expressed distress about reduced or eliminated funding because arts grants are crucial to the development of new arts groups and organizations.

Jeff Raz of the Pickle Family Circus stressed that future arts organizations will be hurt most by current NEA funding cuts.

"An organization such as the Pickle Family Circus, which started on the Hill 20 years ago, couldn't start today because of this country's antagonistic view toward the arts," Raz said.

Local arts activists are urging supporters of continued NEA funding to call or write their Members of Congress to help ensure widespread opposition to the proposed cuts.



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Second All-American Spot For Hill Prep Hoopster

Jamie Redd, co-eaptain of the International Studies Academy's City girls' high school champion basketball team, has been named to the Parade Mugazine All-America squad.

The only Californian in the clite group, Redd had previously been placed on their All-American roster by the Women's Basketball Coaches Association.

Playing point guard for the Potrero Hill team, Redd averaged 29 points per game in her senior year. In addition she averaged 15 rebounds, six assists, four steals and three blocks per game.

During her high school career she racked up 2.491 points, 1051 rebounds, 529 assists and 642 steals.

I.S.A. girls' coach Verna Castro says that Redd "is a good decision maker. She has range, power to the basket, and a good outside game."







Jamie Redd





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Celebrating 40 Years Of Hill Artists' Show

More than 100 works of art were featured at the 40th Annual Potrero Ilill Artists Exhibit, which ran through April at the Potrero Library, 1616 - 20th St.

The April 1 opening of the exhibit brought a new addition, daneing to the music of The Billy Dunn Dance Band.

Many of the artists listed have been regulars over the years, but newer and younger artists have also been drawn to the event. Listed are categories of art and the participating artists, including young artists ages 6-15.

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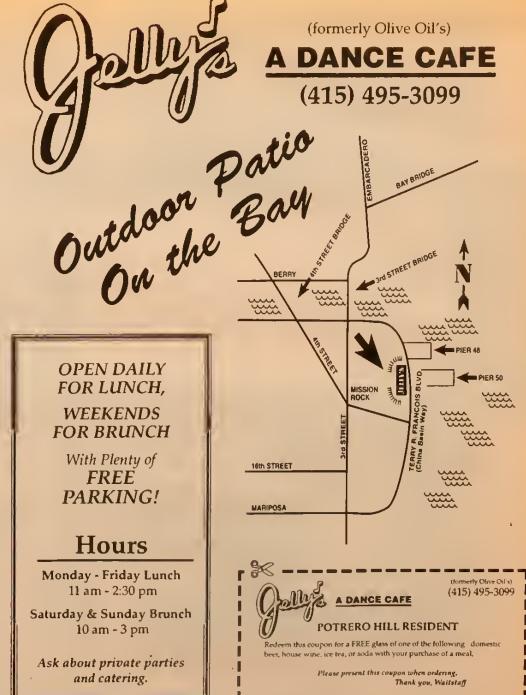
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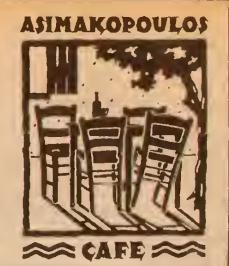
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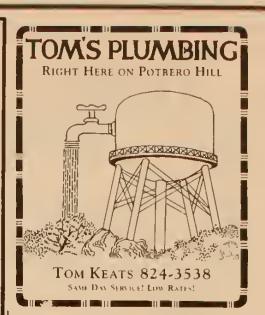
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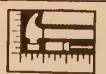
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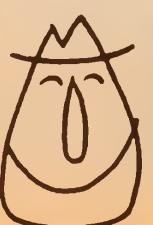
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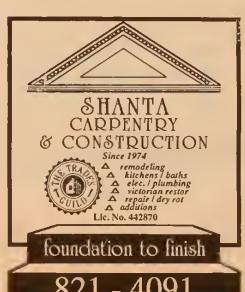
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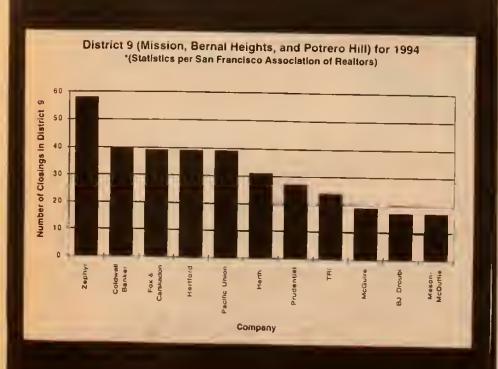
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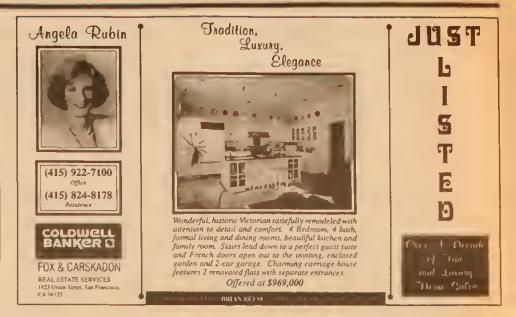
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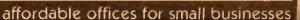
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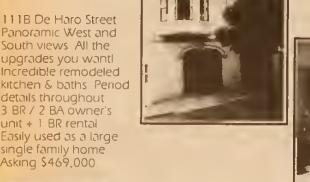
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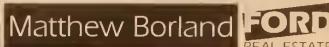




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MASSAGE with a healing touch. Easy parking for incalls. Outcalls available. \$55 2 hrs. \$35 1 hr. Duncan Reid, C.M.T. 821-3969.



HAPPY MAY BIRTHDAY: Jean Angier Joyce Armstrong, Joanne Bagan, Maureen & John Barclift, Mary Bewick, Larry Byes, Helen Changras, Ophelia Clark, Miles Davis, Pele DeLappe, Rachel Dorr, Chuck Elkind, Patsy Faulkner, Peter Firth, Emma Goldman, Rama Kellom, Betty Kelly, Jim Kendall, Fred Kuh, Stanley, Jason & Jan Kurtz, Joyce Lew, Beverly Mack, Venia Martin, Karl Marx, Natalie Passen, Judy Peterson, Willie Rice, Evan Rowe, Judy Stone, Fred Stout, Norma Teagarden, Bob Tofanelli, David Yorke.



